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pre-amendment
10-15-99

SON-1648/CON

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Patent Application of)
Junji HORIKAWA, et al.) Prior Art Unit: 2724
Serial No. Not Assigned) Prior Examiner: A. DO
Filed: Herewith)
For: Computer Animation Generator)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to the initial examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel original claims 1 to 19.

Please add the following new claims in place thereof.

19 120. (new) A method of approximating an image by decreasing an amount of image data used to create the image, wherein said image data defines a polygonal framework, said framework being composed of line segments drawn between vertices, said method comprising:

evaluating a degree of importance of each line segment of said framework;